

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 895

By Burchett

A RESOLUTION to recognize and appreciate Fiona Hyslop, the Scottish Minister for Culture and External Affairs, and Scotland's extraordinary impact on our state.

WHEREAS, the first independent government in America was formed by Scottish settlers at Watauga on land that would become our beloved State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Scottish settlers fought with valor to defend our country in the American Revolution, many of which were rewarded with land contracts for their service to the American cause; and

WHEREAS, one of these settlers, James White, traveled the Tennessee River and founded the city of Knoxville, while others, such as James Robertson, traveled further west and founded our state's capital city of Nashville; and

WHEREAS, the numbers of Scottish settlers in America, particularly in the Southeast, continued to grow and flourish; Scottish-Americans served in every capacity of their communities and were always among the first to volunteer for military service to defend the liberties they treasured; and

WHEREAS, many Scottish-Americans became icons in the history of the nation, including Tennessee pioneers, Davy Crockett and Sam Houston, as well as every Tennessean who has served as President of this great nation, namely, Andrew Jackson, James K. Polk, and Andrew Johnson; and

WHEREAS, Scottish heritage has profoundly contributed to many Tennessee traditions, chiefly in the Appalachian region of East Tennessee, including the Tennessee institution of bluegrass music; and

WHEREAS, today, hundreds of thousands of Tennesseans are descended from Scottish ancestry, giving our state the third highest percentage of residents of Scottish descent in America, and the contribution of Scottish-Americans is strongly felt across Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby extend our warmest welcome and appreciation to Fiona Hyslop, the Scottish Minister for Culture and External Affairs, and extend to her our best wishes for her continued success in Scottish government.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with the final clause omitted from such copy.